IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 147.   (Cancelled)

148.   (Original)   A method of implementing a media content delivery and playback scheme, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving media content which is delivered asynchronously via a communication channel; and

enabling the playback of the media content at a predetermined time after the receipt of the media content.

149.   (Original)   The method defined in claim 148, further comprising the step of detecting said media content at the predetermined time.

150.   (Original)   The method defined in claim 148, further comprising the step of providing a notification of receipt of the media content.

151.   (New)   The method of claim 148, wherein said playback is enabled only after a predetermined time after the receipt of said media content.

152.   (New)   The method of claim 148, wherein asynchronous delivery of said media content is controlled by a first processor of a first device and said playback is controlled by a second processor of a second device.

153.   (New)   The method of claim 152, wherein said playback of media content is enabled in said second device at a first predetermined time after said delivery of said media content.

154.   (New)   The method of claim 152, wherein said media content may not be detectable by a user of said second device until said predetermined time.

155.   (New)   The method of claim 152, wherein said delivery of said media content from said first device to said second device is controlled in accordance with a digital rights management scheme.

156.   (New)   The method of claim 152, wherein said first device and said second device are coupled by said communication channel.

157.   (New)   The method of claim 152, wherein said first device and said second device are implemented in computer systems.